

Dr. A. R. Menon (Pallippuram).—All the more reason why we should have it here.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (Chief Medical Officer).—In Coimbatore district they have started a sanatorium near Erode. It will prove to be more useful to give some subsidy to that institution and see that our patients are admitted there. The idea of starting an institution within our State is not a practical proposition.

Dr. A. R. Menon (Pallippuram).—The Resolution has been amended.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (Chief Medical Officer).—Then the question of starting an institution belonging to the State outside the State and to maintain it is not possible just at present with the limited resources.

Dr. A. R. Menon (Pallippuram).—You said with the limited resources of the State. Therefore objection is not for starting a hospital outside State. It is a question of want of funds.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar (Secretary to Government).—I would like to explain the position of Government. Pending availability of funds the question of entering into some arrangement with the Tuberculosis Hospital at Coimbatore will be considered by Government.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (Chittur Rural).—I beg to leave of the House to withdraw the resolution.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

9. Construction of a separate building for the Chittur Sirkar High School Hostel.

Mr. C. S. Viswanatha Ayyar (Chittur-Tattamangalam Town).—“*This Council recommends to the Government to take immediate steps for the construction of a separate building for the Hostel attached to the Sirkar High School, Chittur, sufficient to lodge the students seeking admission to the Hostel.*”

Sir, this is a matter which has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Government by the public of Chittur wherever opportunities arose. This again is a longstanding grievance of the Chittur public. The Government have so far stood by the words “financial stringency” but I beg leave to submit

that such pleas should not be put forward in very important and urgent matters. The Chittur High School is a very old one and caters to a large number of His Highness' young subjects. From distant Nalleppilli, Kozhinjampara, Velanthavalam, Puthur, etc., a number of students are attending and many more are prevented from coming due to lack of facilities. In short students from at a distance of about 20 miles from the school are attending the school. The reputation that the school has built around it is so strong and attractive that, of late, students from Pollachi and Anamalais even are attending the school. Their one standing grievance is the lack of proper accommodation in the Hostel. There were times when the Hostel had more than 40 boarders who were accommodated in the various class rooms of the school from where they have to shift their beddings and books before the commencement of class work every morning. This lack of accommodation had had a detrimental effect on boys and it has tended to discourage the boys from attending this school. The Hostel has been working for the past many years in this most unsatisfactory way. It is certainly late in the day to speak anything about the benefits arising out of accommodating students in suitable and convenient habitations near the school. The cry has been for the establishment of Residential Universities all over and compel students to live in the University itself. But the current of thought among the authorities in the State seems to flow in the opposite way. There are only two High Schools in Chittur Taluk one at Chittur and the other at Nemmara, a distance of 16 miles and of these two, the Chittur High School has to cater to a larger area of population. It is the primary concern of the Government to cater to the needs of the students and to encourage the spread of literacy in all possible ways and the facilities offered by the authorities will certainly be one of the surest methods of encouragement. After all, the construction of a Hostel is not going to cost much to the Government and it can be easily done if the Government take an honest interest in the matter. It is again really cruel on the part of the authorities to ask students of even the lower secondary classes to move for themselves in the matter of habitations after providing meals for them. The necessity and urgency of this matter cannot at all be over-estimated and when it is known that it will benefit a large number of His Highness' loyal subjects it then justifies itself into being treated as an important and urgent matter. In conclusion, I hope that the Government will find their way to redress this long standing grievance of the

Chittur public and will not unnecessarily terrify them by saying "lack of funds". With these words, I have great pleasure in commending this resolution to the acceptance of this House.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—Quite a number of the students belong to Chittur. Only a few want to reside in the hostel.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Pallippuram*).—Is there not a hostel attached to the High School?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—Hostel means a place of residence. They make use of the School building for their residence at night.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (*Chief Engineer*).—The construction of a separate building attached to the High School at Chittur is no doubt desirable. But to construct a building to accommodate about 40 students would cost about Rs. 14,000 and it is not possible to find funds for this expenditure at present especially when there are many schools in the State now which have not sufficient accommodation even for class-rooms. On account of financial stringency of the Government I must say that the Government may not be able to accept this resolution.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Pallippuram*).—When do you expect to get over this financial stringency?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—When the question was first considered about five years ago the strength of the hostel was about 45. Then it came down. It has been fluctuating very violently, because a fairly decent portion of boys comes from the Cochin frontier. Last year I wanted to ascertain whether an approximate number can be fixed for the purpose of calculating the necessary accommodation and the head master then told me that it was roughly between 25 and 30. You will find that it has come down from 45 to 25—30. The need for a hostel there, we cannot say, is a very stable one when we are to undertake such a large commitment on hostels, when we are primarily dealing with day schools. It has not been possible for us to provide school buildings themselves. In the course of the discussion we had yesterday we had a very eloquent exposition of the great trials of the Mattancheri schools. I quite conceded then that the condition there was not satisfactory. The question of providing residential accommodation is certainly, at any rate as far as day

schools are concerned, less urgent than the provision of class-room accommodation. Hostels will have to wait until school buildings are put up.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Pallippuram*).—Cannot Government take on rent a suitable building? You may collect the rent from the boys.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—That may be done. I shall investigate that question.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur Rural*).—Government know fully well that the strength has not fallen. The Member for Education said that from the report of the head master the strength of the hostel has fallen from 45 to 30. Did he care to enquire whether the boys have left the hostel for want of good accommodation?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (*Director of Public Instruction*).—I have enquired.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur Rural*).—There are many boys coming from the east of Kozhijampara occupying certain undesirable places not far from the school because they have no other place. I think therefore that it is incumbent on the Government to see that these boys are given good housing when they are having good education. Rs. 14,000 will not be a big sum for the Government to spend for this good undertaking. Further there will be some small amount of rent to the Government also if they start this work. Under the circumstances Government ought to do something for this hostel.

Mr. C. S. Viswanatha Ayyar (*Chittur Tattamangalam Town*).—With the leave of the House I beg to withdraw the motion.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

(The Hon'ble the President occupied the Chair at this stage).

10. **Relegation to Heads of Departments of powers to make acting arrangements.**

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (*Cheruthuruthi*).—“This Council recommends to the Government that the Heads of Departments especially the Education Department may be empowered to make acting arrangements without in any way overlapping the vested powers of the Staff Selection Board”.